

What is claimed is:

1. A digital work adapted to be distributed within a system for controlling at least one of the distribution and use of digital works, said digital work comprising:  
digital content representing a portion of a digital work suitable for being rendered by a rendering device; and  
usage rights associated with said digital content, said usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of used and distributed by an authorized party.
2. The digital work as recited in claim 1, wherein said usage rights further specify status information indicating the status of the digital work.
3. The digital work as recited in claim 1, wherein said usage rights further specify a usage fee associated with exercise of the manner of use, said usage fee comprising a fee type and fee parameters.
4. The digital work as recited in claim 3 wherein said fee type is a metered use fee and said fee parameters comprise a fee unit and a time unit.
5. The digital work as recited in claim 3 wherein said fee type is a per use fee and said fee parameter comprises a fee unit.
6. The digital work as recited in claim 3 wherein said fee type is a best price fee and said fee parameters comprise an identifier to identify said best price.
7. The digital work as recited in claim 3 wherein said fee type is a scheduled fee and said fee parameters comprise time units and fee units.
8. The digital work as recited in claim 3 wherein said fee type is a mark-up fee and said fee parameters comprise a mark-up percentage.

9. The digital work as recited in claim 1 wherein said digital content and said usage rights are stored on the same physical device.

10. The digital work as recited in claim 1, wherein said digital content and said usage rights are stored on different physical devices.

11. A method for creating a digital work to be used in a system for reporting fees associated with at least one of distribution and use of the digital work, said method comprising:

- a) obtaining digital content representing a portion of a digital work suitable for being rendered by a rendering device;
- b) associating usage rights with the digital content, the usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of distributed; and
- c) storing the digital content and the usage rights as the digital work.

12. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein said storing step comprises storing the digital content and the usage rights on the same physical device.

13. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein said storing step comprises storing the digital content and the usage rights on different physical devices.

14. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein said usage rights further specify a usage fee associated with exercise of the manner of use.

15. The method as recited in claim 14, wherein said usage fee comprises usage fee information including a fee type and fee parameters.

16. The method as recited in claim 15 wherein said fee type is a metered use fee and said fee parameters comprise a fee unit and a time unit.

17. The method as recited in claim 15 wherein said fee type is a per use fee and said fee

parameters comprise a fee unit.

18. The method as recited in claim 15 wherein said fee type is a best price fee and said fee parameters comprise an identifier to identify the best price.

19. The method as recited in claim 15 wherein said fee type is a scheduled fee and said fee parameters comprise time units and fee units.

20. The method as recited in claim 17 wherein said fee type is a mark-up fee and said fee parameters comprise a mark-up percentage.

21. A digital work adapted to be distributed within a system for controlling at least one of the distribution and use of digital works, said system having a mechanism for reporting status information relating to digital works, said digital work comprising:

digital content representing a portion of a digital work suitable for being rendered by a rendering device; and

usage rights associated with said digital content, said usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of used and distributed, said usage rights also including state information indicating the extent of the manner of use exercised by an authorized user.

22. A digital work as recited in claim 21, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the number of copies of the digital work that are in use.

23. A digital work as recited in claim 21, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the number of time units for which the digital work can be used.

24. A digital work as recited in claim 21, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the revenue owner of the digital work.

25. A digital work as recited in claim 21, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the publication date of the digital work.

26. A digital work as recited in claim 21, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the history of at least one of the use and distribution of the digital work.

27. A method for creating a digital work to be used in a system for reporting fees associated with at least one of distribution and use of the digital work, said method comprising:

- a) obtaining digital content representing a portion of a digital work suitable for being rendered by a rendering device;
- b) associating usage rights with the digital content, the usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of distributed, said usage rights also including state information indicating the extent of the manner of use exercised by an authorized user; and
- c) storing the digital content and the usage rights as the digital work.

28. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein said storing step comprises storing the digital content and the usage rights on the same physical device.

29. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein said storing step comprises storing the digital content and the usage rights on different physical devices.

30. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the number of copies of the digital work that are in use.

31. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the number of time units for which the digital work can be used.

32. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the revenue owner of the digital work.

33. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the publication date of the digital work.

34. A method as recited in claim 27, wherein the state information comprises information indicating the history of at least one of the use and distribution of the digital work.